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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in all its aspects

Letter dated 22 June 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As the representative of the State chairing the constituent organs of the Commonwealth of Independent States, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of an appeal of the Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, adopted on 19 June 2001 in Baku (see annex II), addressed to the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS.

The appeal was signed by the representatives of the Ministries of Health of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan, and also of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Welfare of Georgia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS.

(*Signed*) A. **Granovsky**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/S-26/1.

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Annex I

Decision concerning the appeal by the Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States addressed to the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS

The Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Guided by the Agreement on cooperation in resolving the problems of HIV infection, of 25 November 1998,

Recognizing that the disease caused by the human immunodeficiency virus requires concerted action at the global level,

Has decided:

1. To adopt the appeal of the Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States addressed to the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS (see annex II).

2. To request Mr. Y. L. Shevchenko, Chairman of the Council, and Minister for Health of the Russian Federation, through the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations (as the State chairing the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs) to bring the appeal to the attention of the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS.

3. This decision shall enter into force on the day of its signature.

Done at Baku on 19 June 2001, in a single original in the Russian language. The original shall be deposited with the executive committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which shall send a certified copy to each health ministry and department of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia
(*Signature*)

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan
(*Signature*)

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus
(*Signature*)

For the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Welfare of Georgia
(*Signature*)

For the Health Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan

For the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova

For the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation
(*Signature*)

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan
(*Signature*)

For the Ministry of Health and the Medical Industry of Turkmenistan

For the Ministry of Health of Ukraine

For the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Annex II

Appeal of the Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States addressed to the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, on HIV/AIDS

Baku, 19 June 2001

The Council on cooperation in the field of health of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Guided by the Agreement on cooperation in resolving the problems of HIV infection, of 25 November 1998,

Recognizing that the disease caused by the human immunodeficiency virus has spread massively throughout the world and has created a real threat to the population of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Taking into account the special social significance of the problem of HIV/AIDS in the countries with economies in transition,

Confirming the need to adopt timely and effective measures for the comprehensive prevention of HIV infection and concerted action to ensure the protection of the rights and interests of citizens,

On behalf of the medical community of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, greets the participants at the twenty-sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly and wishes them success in formulating initiatives and in intensifying international cooperation and efforts to combat HIV/AIDS;

Stresses its gratitude to the international organizations which are carrying out activities in the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States for their assistance and support in resolving the problems associated with this disease;

Expresses the conviction that the recommendations of the twenty-sixth special session of the United Nations General Assembly will make it possible to draw the attention of international organizations and potential donors to the problems and needs of our region, and will contribute to an expansion of international cooperation on the acute problem of HIV/AIDS in the interests of the population of the States members of the Commonwealth.